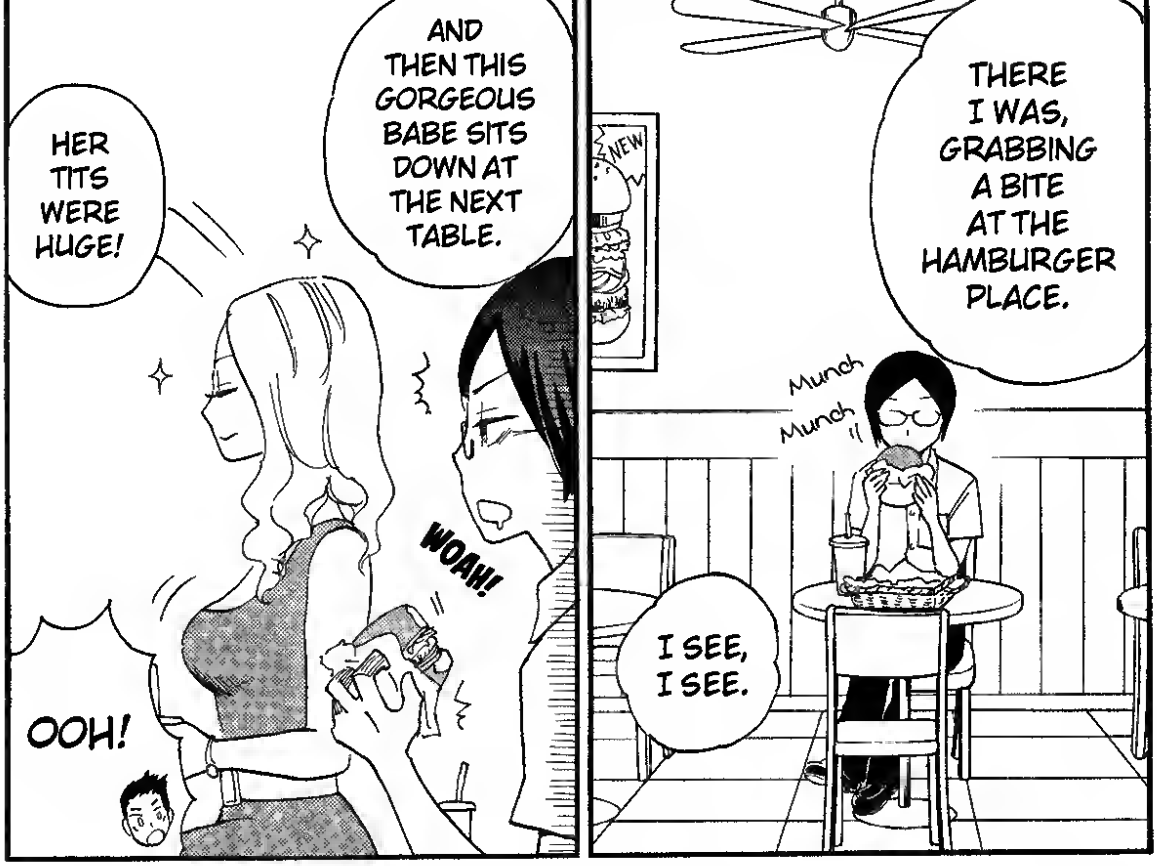
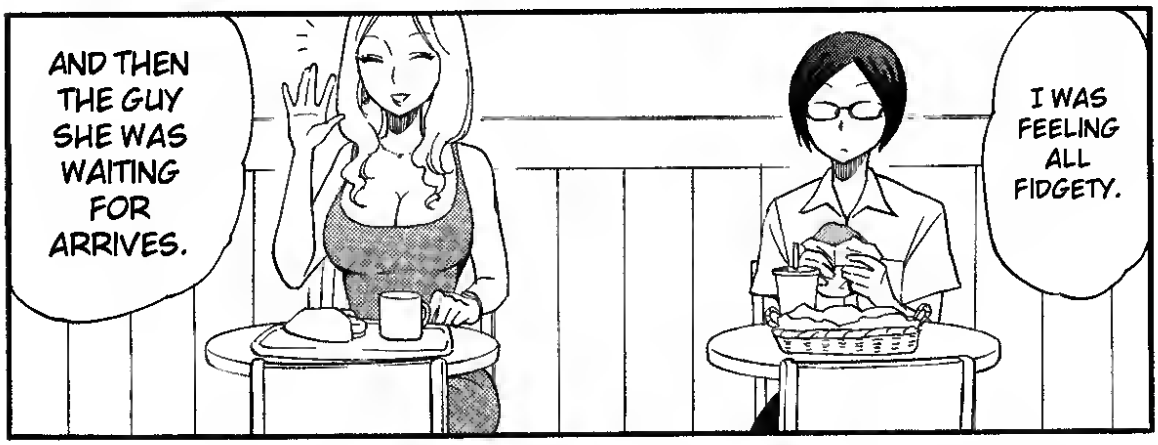
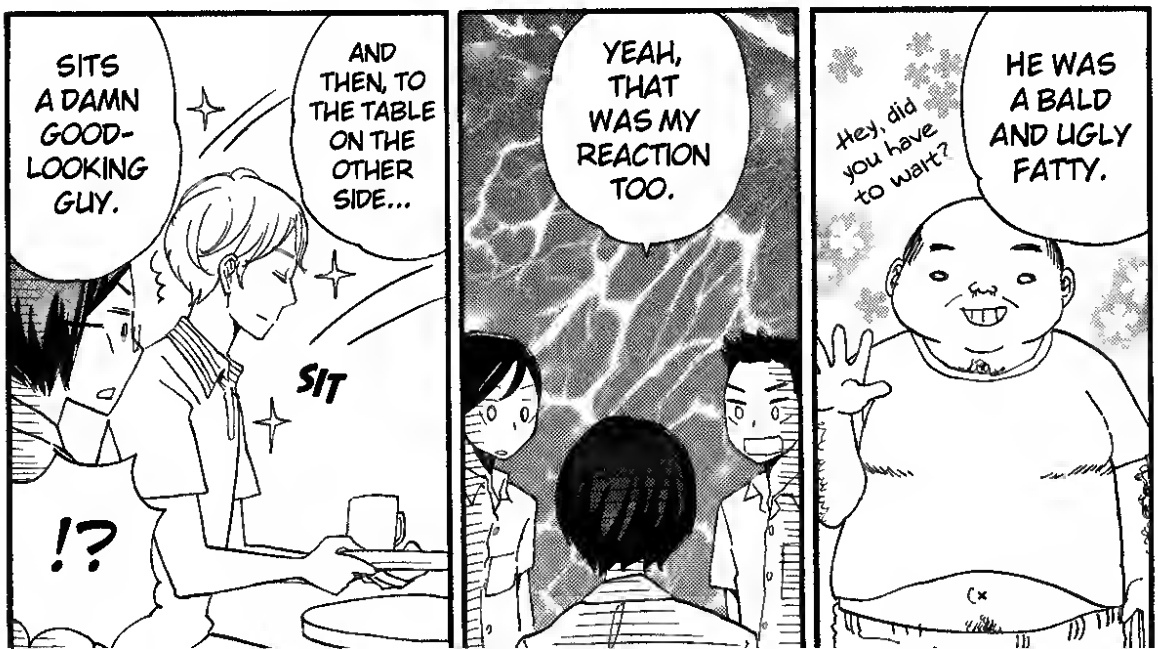
Between Smooth and Rough

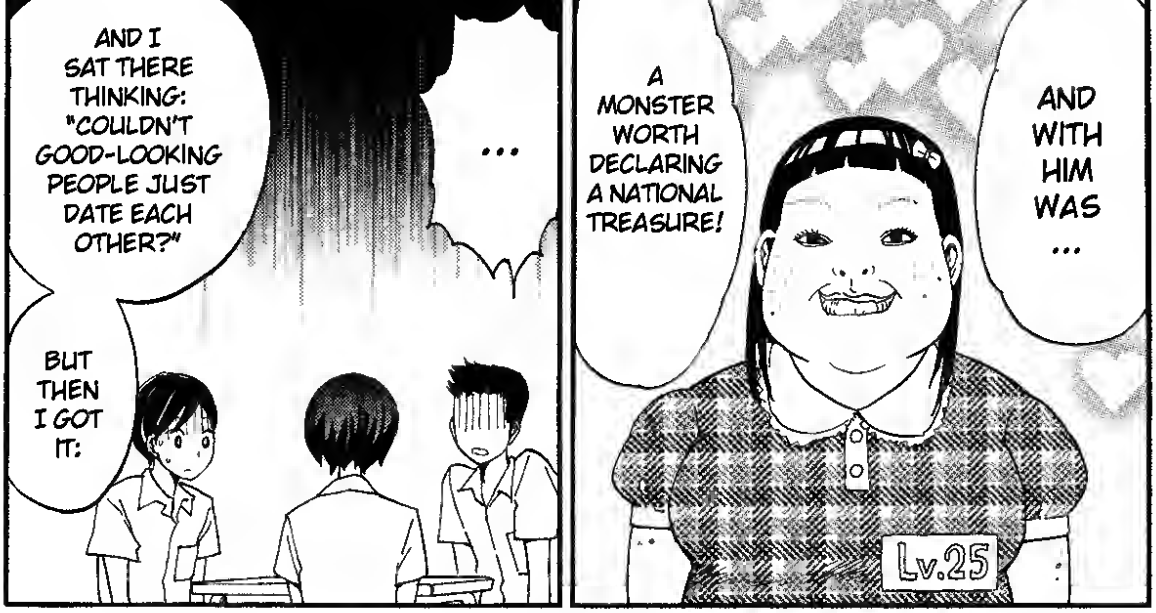
Sigh.
HERE'S MY BEST FRIEND. EVEN THOUGH HE WEARS GLASSES, HE'S AN IDIOT.
TAKA-YASHIKI MANABU.

SOUNDS ANNOYING, BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO. LET'S HEAR IT.
LISTEN.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THAT SIGHING?
SCREEN


THERE I WAS, GRABBING A BITE AT THE HAMBURGER PLACE.
Munch Munch
I SEE, I SEE.
AND THEN THIS GORGEOUS BABE SITS DOWN AT THE NEXT TABLE.
HER TITS WERE HUGE!
WOAH!
OOH!


I WAS FEELING ALL FIDGETY.
AND THEN THE GUY SHE WAS WAITING FOR ARRIVES.

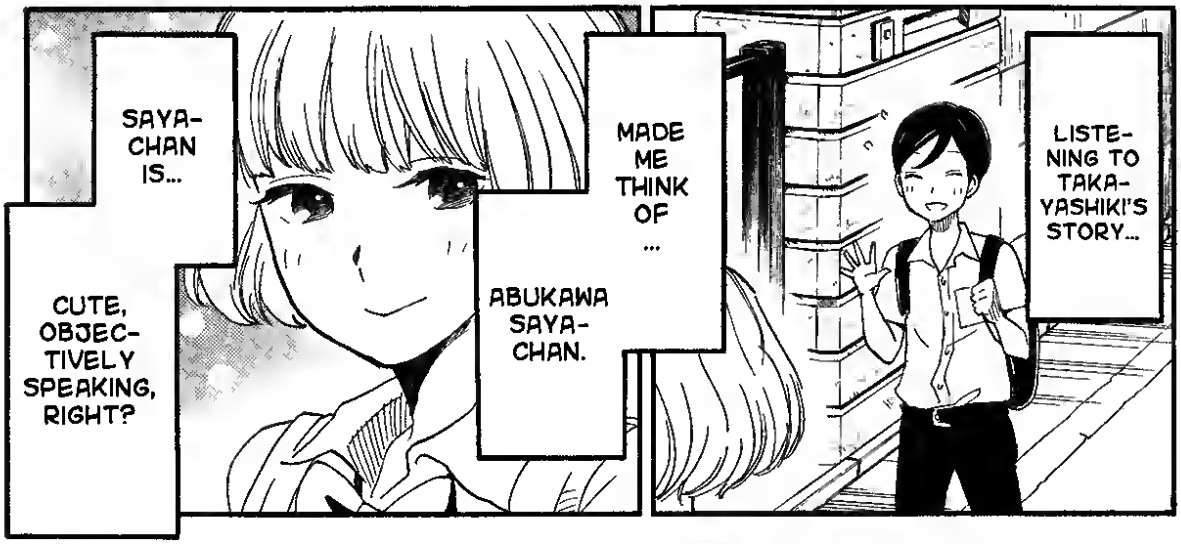

HE WAS A BALD AND UGLY FATTY.
Hey, did you have to wait?
YEAH, THAT WAS MY REACTION TOO.
AND THEN, TO THE TABLE ON THE OTHER SIDE...
SIT
SITS A DAMN GOOD-LOOKING GUY.
!?

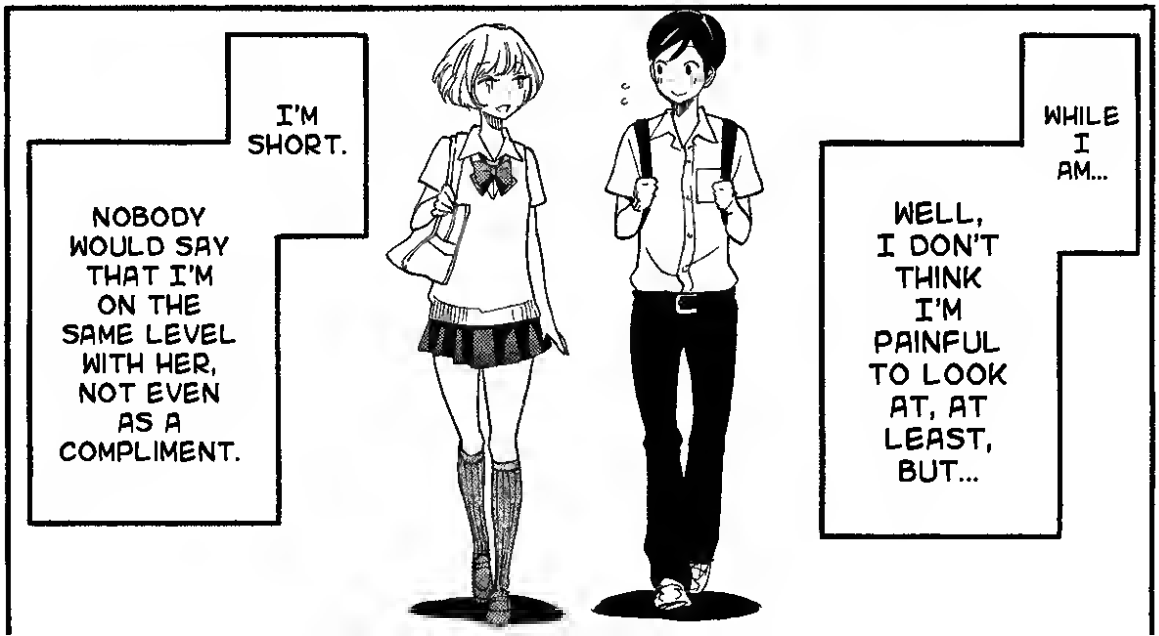

AND I SAT THERE THINKING: "COULDN'T GOOD-LOOKING PEOPLE JUST DATE EACH OTHER?"
...
BUT THEN I GOT IT:
A MONSTER WORTH DECLARING A NATIONAL TREASURE!
AND WITH HIM WAS ...
Lv.25

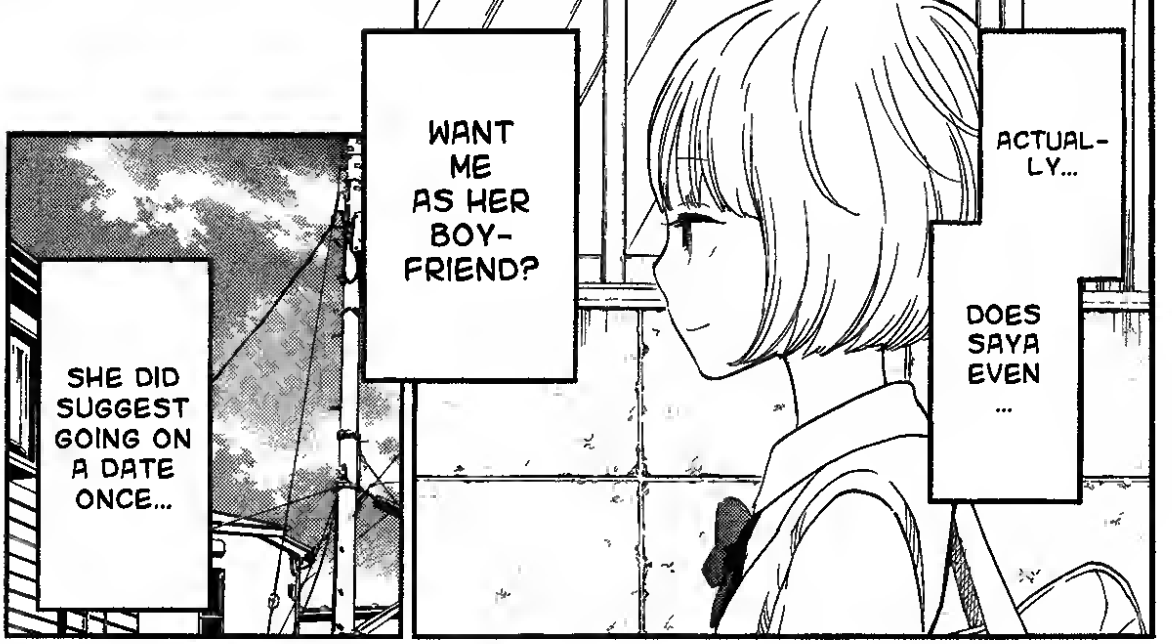
HUH? THAT WAS A STORY TO CHEER US UP?
SO DON'T GIVE UP, YOU TWO!
Huff!
LOOKS REALLY DON'T MATTER ALL THAT MUCH IN A RELATION-SHIP.

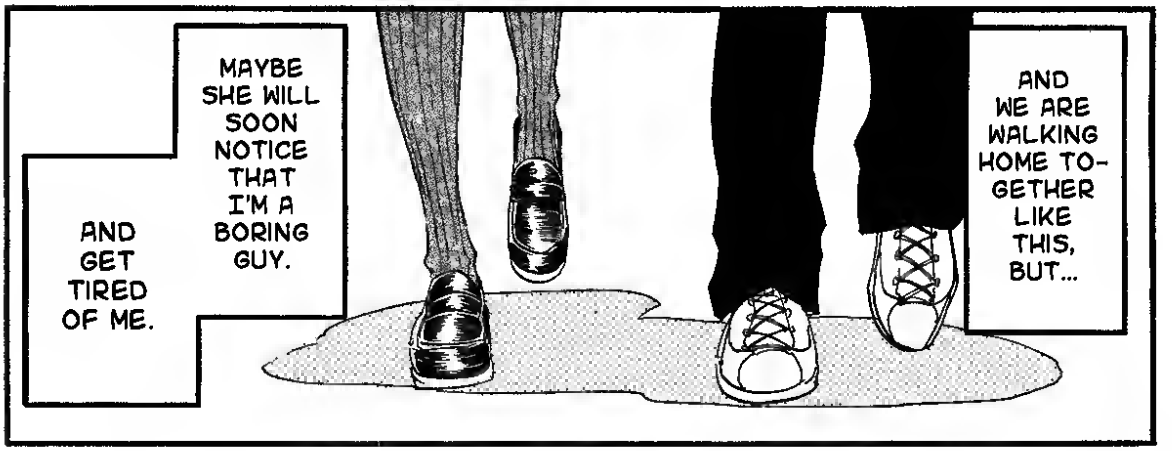
DON'T MAKE IT SOUND LIKE FISHING.
SHOULDN'T WE JUST TRY TO CATCH WHOEVER WE CAN?
TRUE THAT.
HAVE IT TOUGH JUST TRYING TO MEET ANYONE.
WELL, GUYS LIKE US WHO GO TO A BOYS' SCHOOL ...
HMMM ...

TAMAKI-KUN!
A "BOY-FRIEND" ...
AND A "GIRL-FRIEND", HUH.


SAYA-CHAN IS...
CUTE, OBJEC-TIVELY SPEAKING, RIGHT?
MADE ME THINK OF ...
ABUKAWA SAYA-CHAN.
LISTE-NING TO TAKA-YASHIKI'S STORY...


I'M SHORT.
NOBODY WOULD SAY THAT I'M ON THE SAME LEVEL WITH HER, NOT EVEN AS A COMPLIMENT.
WHILE I AM...
WELL, I DON'T THINK I'M PAINFUL TO LOOK AT, AT LEAST, BUT...


SHE DID SUGGEST GOING ON A DATE ONCE...
WANT ME AS HER BOY-FRIEND?
ACTUAL-LY...
DOES SAYA EVEN ...


AND GET TIRED OF ME.
MAYBE SHE WILL SOON NOTICE THAT I'M A BORING GUY.
AND WE ARE WALKING HOME TO-GETHER LIKE THIS, BUT...

T SHOP SHIRANE

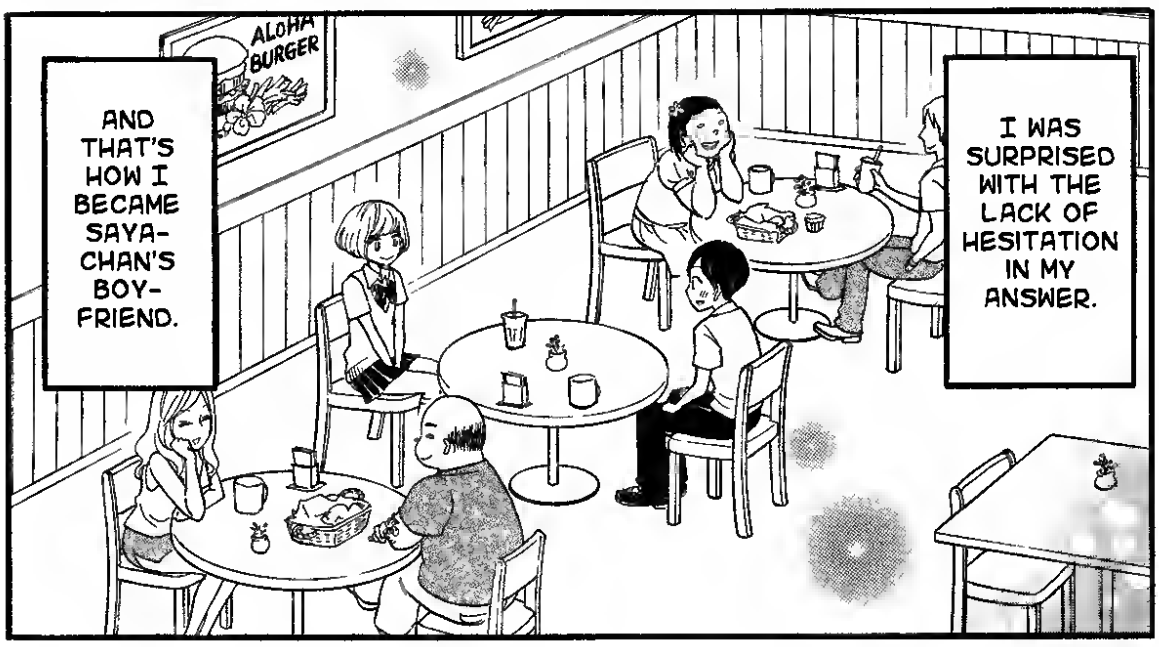
I'VE BEEN ON THE RECEIVING SIDE ALL THIS TIME! AM I JUST WAITING FOR HER TO ALWAYS TAKE THE LEAD?
WHAT AM I THINKING ABOUT, HOPES?
I SHOULDN'T GET MY HOPES UP TOO HIGH...
?

SHIRANE
WOAH!
SHIRANE
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SIGH.
WHAT A PITIFUL GUY I AM.

OI! EVEN IF YOUR TANK IS BEING CLEANED, THAT SORT OF MINGLING IS PROHIBITED!
WHAT?
SHIRANE
COME ON!
TAMAKI! TAKE A LOOK!
HUG ♡
THE FIRE BELLY NEWT AND ...
THE TREE FROG ARE EMBRACING EACH OTHER!

THEY'RE BOTH SPECIES THAT DON'T HAVE THAT MANY FEMALES.
THEY'LL SETTLE FOR WHATEVER THEY CAN GET A HOLD OF INSTEAD.
WHY?
I WONDER IF IT'S THEIR MATING SEASON.
EEH?
SETTLE FOR...
WHAT-EVER THEY CAN GET A HOLD OF.
A HA HA!
THEY ARE GREEDY ANIMALS LIKE THAT.
SHIRANE-KUN.
IT'S NOT LIKE I'D BE FINE WITH ANYONE.
I AM...
DIFFERENT. NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL.

AFTER WALKING HOME TOGETHER SEVERAL TIMES...
I STILL LIKE YOU, SHIRANE-KUN.
SO... WHAT DO YOU SAY?
AS I THOUGHT ...
I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO GO OUT WITH YOU.
...IF YOU WANT?
I... IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME!
I... I'D REALLY LIKE TO GO OUT WITH YOU TOO!


ALOHA BURGER
I WAS SURPRISED WITH THE LACK OF HESITATION IN MY ANSWER.
AND THAT'S HOW I BECAME SAYA-CHAN'S BOY-FRIEND.